

accessing a sector of the memory system by, when the sector being accessed is defective, referring to the sector defect map to translate the address of the defective sector being accessed into an address of another sector that is not defective, thereby to remap the defective sector into another sector that is not defective.

--71. The method of claim 70 wherein accessing a sector of the memory includes first comparing an address of the desired sector with the addresses of defective sectors that are stored in the sector defect map, and then either, (a) if the desired sector address is not stored in the sector defect map, accessing the sector which has the desired address, thereby leaving the sector addressing undisturbed by the sector defect map, or (b) if the desired sector address is stored in the sector defect map, accessing the sector that is not defective whose address is linked therewith in the sector defect map.--

--72. The method of claim 70 wherein the sector defect map is stored in the memory cell array.--

--73. The method of claim 70 wherein accessing a sector of the memory is performed by the controller.--

--74. The method of claim 70 wherein accessing a sector of the memory is performed by the processor.--

--75. The method of claim 70 wherein identifying when a sector becomes defective includes identifying when a sector has a number of defective memory cells therein which exceeds a given number.--

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed prior to an Examiner's Action in the present continuation application, in order to substitute a new set of claims for those originally filed. These claims are directed to the feature of defective sector substitution that is described on pages 23 and 24, and elsewhere, of the present application specification.

An Information Disclosure Statement, and copies of the

references listed therein, are also being filed herewith.

An early examination and allowance of the present application, as amended, is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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